What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method of linking a first plurality of clients connected to a packet-switched conferencing server to a second plurality of clients connected to a circuit-switched conferencing server, one or more of said first plurality of clients and said second plurality of clients being designated as an active speaker, the method comprising the steps of:

(1) establishing, by said packet-switched conferencing server, a connection to said circuit-switched conferencing server;

(2) designating said connection as an active speaker on said packet-switched conferencing server;

(3) receiving, over said connection, a first audio packet from said circuit-switched conferencing server, wherein said first audio packet is a mixture of packets received from each of the second plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker by said circuit-switched conferencing server;

(4) receiving, by said packet-switched conferencing server, a plurality of audio packets, wherein said plurality of audio packets comprises a second audio packet from each of the first plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker by said packet-switched conferencing server;

(5) forwarding, over said connection, said second audio packet to said circuit-switched conferencing server;

(6) mixing said first audio packet with said active speaker packets from the first plurality of clients into a composite packet; and

(7) forwarding said composite packet to each of the first plurality of clients connected to said packet-switched conferencing server;

whereby the first and second plurality of clients, using varying equipment and protocols, can simultaneously participate in a single audio conference application.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said composite packet is forwarded with echo suppression.

3. A method of linking a first plurality of clients connected to a circuit-switched conferencing server to a second plurality of clients connected to a packet-switched conferencing server, comprising the steps of:

(1) establishing, by said circuit-switched conferencing server, a connection to said packet-switched conferencing server;

(2) designating said connection as an active speaker on said circuit-switched conferencing server;

(3) receiving, over said connection, a first audio packet from said packet-switched conferencing server, wherein said first audio packet is a mixture of packets received from each of the second plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker by the said packet-switched conferencing server;

(4) receiving, by said circuit-switched conferencing server, a plurality of audio packets, wherein said plurality of audio packets comprises a second audio packet from each of the first plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker by said circuit-switched conferencing server;

(5) mixing said first audio packet and said second audio packet into one combined audio packet;

(6) forwarding said one combined audio packet to each of the first plurality of clients connected to said circuit-switched conferencing server; and

(7) forwarding, over said connection, said second audio packet to said packet-switched conferencing server;

whereby the first and second plurality of clients, using varying equipment and protocols, can simultaneously participate in a single audio conference application.

4. A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having control logic stored therein for causing a computer to connect a first plurality of clients connected to a packet-switched conferencing server to a second plurality of clients connected to a circuit-switched conferencing server, said control logic comprising:

first computer readable program code means for causing the computer to establish, by said packet-switched conferencing server, a connection to said circuit-switched conferencing server;

second computer readable program code means for causing the computer to designate said connection as an active speaker on said packet-switched conferencing server;

third computer readable program code means for causing the computer to receive, over said connection, a first audio packet from said circuit-switched conferencing server, wherein said first audio packet is a mixture of packets received from each of the second plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker by said circuit-switched conferencing server;

fourth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to forward said first audio packet to each of the first plurality of clients connected to said packet-switched conferencing server;

fifth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to receive, by said packet-switched conferencing server, a plurality of audio packets, wherein said plurality of audio packets comprises a second audio packet from each of the first plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker by said packet-switched conferencing server; and

sixth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to forward, over said connection, said second audio packet to said circuit-switched conferencing server;

whereby the first and second plurality of clients, using varying equipment and protocols, can simultaneously participate in a single audio conference application.

5. A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having control logic stored therein for causing a computer to connect a first plurality of clients connected to a circuit-switched conferencing server to a second plurality of clients connected to a packet-switched conferencing server, said control logic comprising:

first computer readable program code means for causing the computer to establish, by said circuit-switched conferencing server, a connection to said packet-switched conferencing server;

second computer readable program code means for causing the computer to designate said connection as an active speaker on said circuit-switched conferencing server;

third computer readable program code means for causing the computer to receive, over said connection, a first audio packet from said packet-switched conferencing server, wherein said first audio packet is a mixture of packets received from each of the second plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker by the said packet-switched conferencing server;

fourth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to receive, by said circuit-switched conferencing server, a plurality of audio packets, wherein said plurality of audio packets comprises a second audio packet from each of the first plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker by said packet-switched conferencing server;

fifth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to mix said first audio packet and said second audio packet into one combined audio packet;

sixth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to forward said one combined audio packet to each of the first plurality of clients connected to said circuit-switched conferencing server; and

seventh computer readable program code means for causing the computer to forward, over said connection, said second audio packet to said packet-switched conferencing server;

whereby the first and second plurality of clients, using varying equipment and protocols, can simultaneously participate in a single audio conference application.